

GUARANTEE
Your Money Back
If You Want It.
See Editorial Page, First Column.



WEATHER
FAIR, WARMER TO-DAY; TO-MOR-
ROW, INCREASING CLOUDINESS.
Yesterday's Temperatures:
High, 53; Low, 32.
Full report on Page 12.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1915.

PRICE ONE CENT In City of New York, Newark, Jersey City and Hoboken.
ELSEWHERE TWO CENTS.

BOLTED DOOR HELD VICTIMS PENNY IN FIRE

Two Employers in
Shirtwaist Fac-
tory Arrested.

FACTORY PERIL IS WIDESPREAD

Disasters Are Tempted in
Scores of Buildings by
Defying Orders.

A charred and bolted door in the Williamsburg factory where eight girls and four men died terribly on Saturday afternoon stood yesterday as mute evidence of how negligence trapped and killed. In the light of yesterday's investigation the fire seemed virtually a duplication of the Triangle tragedy of four years ago.

The only conspicuous difference was that fewer lives were lost in the fire of Saturday—and that was due entirely to the fact that the building housed fewer employees. There developed the same old story of neglected safeguarding and the denial of responsibility by those in whom responsibility was vested.

With it all comes the most amazing revelation from the Fire Department that there are scores of buildings in the greater city in a similar condition to the Diamond plant and that there is no remedy at hand.

Commissioner Adamson declared yesterday that it would be impossible to change the situation within ten years. It was made clear that his department and the state Department of Labor had not enough men to enforce a correction of the violations.

Trying to Shift Blame.

There was a strong tendency yesterday by those not involved to fasten the blame upon the responsible officials, and these, in turn, were ready with explanations fixing the blame upon the intangible nonentity—inadequate departmental staffs.

James C. Crosey, District Attorney of Kings County, was much incensed at alleged negligence of the State Labor Department, and issued subpoenas for three officials to appear to-day before Ernest Wagner, at his office, at Hoyt and Fulton streets.

The men called by the District Attorney are Commissioner James M. Lynch of the State Labor Department, Frederick H. Cunningham, attorney for that department, and George A. Rosquist, the inspector said to be responsible for the district embracing the burned plant of the Diamond Candy Company.

The investigation of the District Attorney is really a continuation of the work started by his assistants, Rubin Wilson and Louis Goldstein, on Saturday, while the Diamond factory was still smoldering.

Mr. Crosey is particularly anxious to get a complete explanation from these three men why they permitted the owner of the Diamond factory to continue to defy their orders to comply with the law in the matter of safeguarding the building in its entirety.

Condemned Nine Months Ago.

The men will be asked why they permitted nine months to elapse after Diamond had been ordered to make the necessary changes and improvements in his building to protect the lives of the persons in his own employ and in the employ of his tenants.

Mr. Crosey learned yesterday that the violation order had been filed against Diamond in January, and the work of putting the building in proper shape had begun only on Thursday, two days before the building burned. He called attention to the fact that during that long interval the State Labor Department had the power to close the building, and in addition had the right to call upon him for legal assistance in the event of obstacles being put in their way in the enforcement of the law.

Mr. Crosey said the investigation by his office would be an exhaustive probe into the violations existing at the Diamond plant before the fire, and that it would be continued until the responsible officials were definitely punished.

A stout trapdoor which was bolted over the emergency stairway exit on the fourth floor, occupied by the Essex Shirt Company, is thought to be responsible for the inability of many to get down to the lower floors, where escape was comparatively easy.

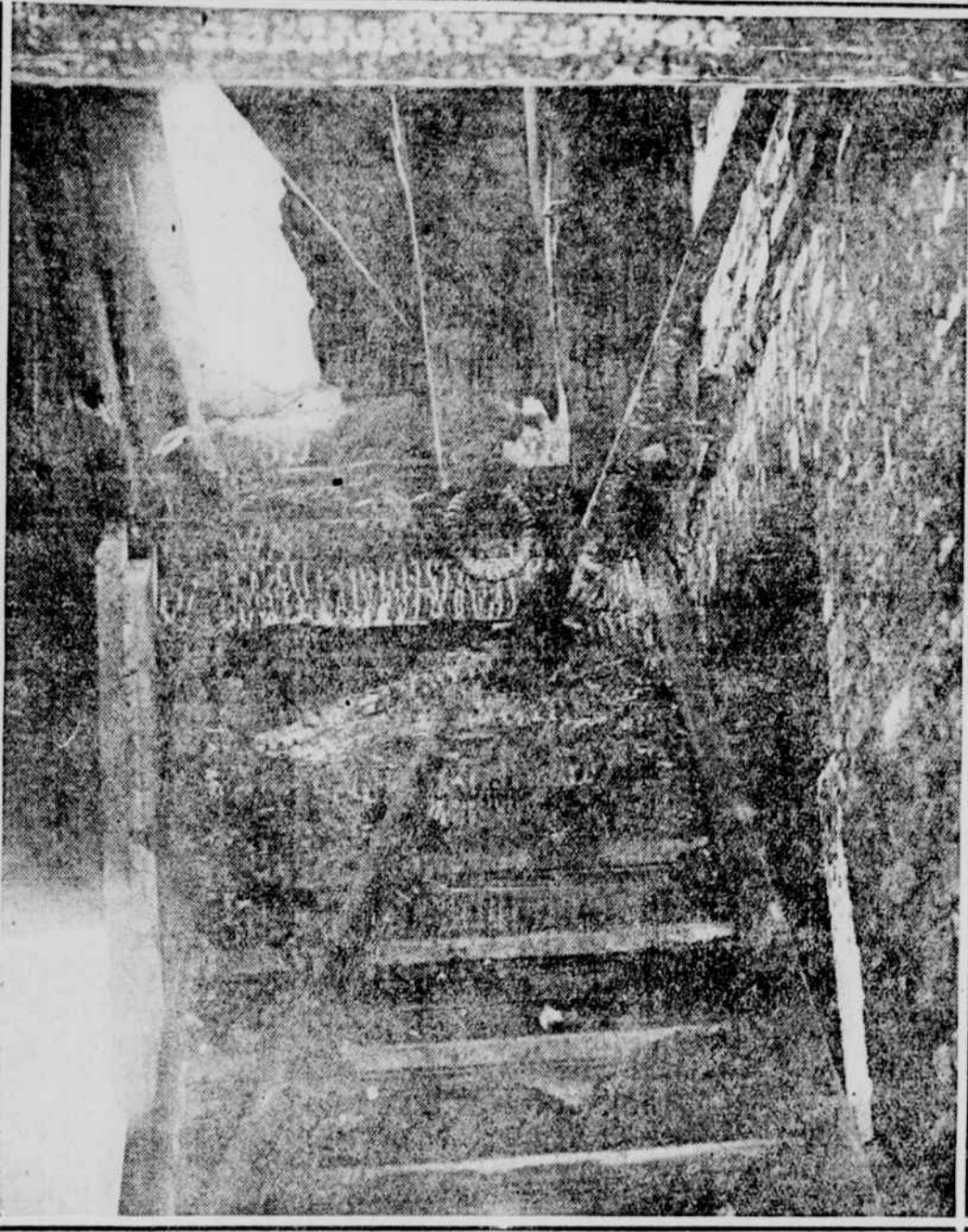
This door was supposed to remain open and unbolted while there were occupants in the building, but its charred frame showed yesterday that it was fast at the time of the fire. It was taken from the ruins yesterday to the office of Fire Commissioner Adamson.

Coroner Ernest C. Wagner, of Brooklyn, late last night ordered the arrest of Samuel Simon, of 740 Rockaway Avenue, Brooklyn, and Samuel Barken, of 362 South Second Street, Brooklyn, both of the Essex Shirt Company. Both were held as material witnesses to appear before the coroner's jury which is inquiring into the deaths of the Diamond factory.

Wagner had the arrests made when he learned from various witnesses that a large percentage of the deaths were directly caused by the bolting of the door leading from the third to the fourth floor.

Barken admitted to Chief Brophy of there. I suppose it is always open.

THE TRAP THAT CAUGHT TWELVE LIVES.



Charred remains of the bolted trapdoor can be seen at the head of the wooden staircase. Cut off by flames from the usual exit, panic-stricken factory girls found this emergency stair also blocked. The door was removed as evidence by the authorities investigating the fire.

MANY FACTORIES INVITE DISASTER

Records of the Bureau of Fire Prevention show there are scores of factory buildings in this city similar in construction and occupancy to that destroyed Saturday, in which a repetition of that disastrous fire is possible. The remedy is speedy compliance by the owners with the orders of the Fire Department, particularly for inclosing vertical shafts, and the orders of the State Department of Labor for protection of exit facilities.—From a statement by Joseph O. Hammett, Chief of the Bureau of Fire Prevention.

This threatening situation cannot be remedied within ten years. We haven't enough men for the work, for one thing, and violators of factory and fire-prevention laws are so inconsiderate of life that they use every device, including the influence of powerful organizations, to fight the installation of life-saving improvements.—From a statement by Fire Commissioner Robert Adamson.

We accepted the statement of the owner of the building on September 29 that he would fireproof the stairways. Our inspectors didn't have time to go around after that to see that this work was done.—From a statement by Chairman James M. Lynch of the State Department of Labor.

Up to October 1 there were referred to our legal department 1,500 complaints against factory employers who persisted in disregarding our orders.—From a statement by John Cunningham, attorney for the Department of Labor.

Automobile Tosses Cart Into Air and Child Is Thrown Gently Out.

A baby carriage was struck by an automobile at West End Avenue and Ninety-fifth Street last night, turned a complete somersault, and landing right side up on the wheels, the baby remained in the carriage until it struck, when a jolt tossed it gently to the pavement. Witnesses said that had the baby dropped when the carriage was wrong side up it inevitably would have struck on its head and been killed.

The carriage belonged to Mrs. Bella Emsherman, who was wheeling her infant son Charles in it. It was hit by an automobile owned and operated by Charles R. Hayes, of 52 St. Nicholas Avenue, as the car swerved aside to avoid another car.

The baby was taken to its home by Dr. Steele, attended to at St. Nicholas Avenue, who said only a slight bruise had been sustained.

WOMAN WITH GUN ARRESTED

Policeman Says She Admitted Intending to Kill Herself.

A woman found toying with a revolver in the waiting room of the West Shore ferry house, at the foot of West Forty-second Street, yesterday afternoon, was taken to the West Forty-seventh Street police station by Patrolman Giel. She said she was Mrs. Howard C. Kelly, of 505 Tremont Avenue, the Bronx.

The patrolman said the woman told him she intended to kill herself. She said her mother died a few days ago and that she spent Friday and Saturday with friends in Nutley, N. J. She bought the revolver in Newark, she said. She was sent to a clinic for observation.

AUTO KILLS GIRL; HER CHUM HURT

Miss Heimsoth, Victim,
Was Graduated from
School Saturday.

Graduated on Saturday from the Warner-Blaine finishing school at Germantown, Penn., Miss Alma Heimsoth, the twenty-one-year-old daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Heimsoth, a widow, of 276 St. Nicholas Avenue, and sister of Joseph W. Heimsoth, a lawyer, of 35 Nassau Street, was killed by an automobile a short distance from her home yesterday afternoon.

Miss Heimsoth's chum, Miss Margaret Wilkins, twenty years old, of 559 West 150th Street, who accompanied the girl, was also struck. She received injuries considered serious by the physicians of Lloyd's Sanatorium, 8 St. Nicholas Place, where the two were taken.

Miss Wilkins, daughter of Herman L. Wilkins, president of the Reliance Auto Parts Manufacturing Company, yesterday called on Miss Heimsoth to congratulate her on her graduation. They talked for some time, and then Miss Wilkins suggested they call on Miss Wilkins' parents.

The two girls started north on St. Nicholas Avenue and turned west at 149th Street. The street here is very wide, St. Nicholas Place runs to the east, and in the center of the roadway, dividing the two streets, is a small triangular park.

Miss Heimsoth and her companion safely crossed the east side of the roadway and had succeeded in getting past the northbound automobile, driven at a fast pace, here down upon them. The two had barely time to step back when the machine whizzed past.

At the same time Harold Loveland, twenty-three years old, of 169 Manhattan Avenue, chauffeur for Augustus Davis, of 245 Manhattan Avenue, was driving north in the Davis machine, in which were Mrs. Loveland and Miss Sarah Walkin, of the same address. He saw the girls clear the northbound traffic and he put on power to cross 149th Street. As the car shot forward the two girls, jumping back from the southbound machine, stepped directly in front of the Davis car.

Loveland did not have time to set his brakes before the machine, heavily touring car, struck the girls. Both were hurled high into the air. They landed on their heads seven feet away, and but for the quick action of Loveland in swerving his machine would have been run over.

Standing in front of the Lloyd Sanatorium was the owner, Dr. Henry W. Lloyd, and Dr. Sidney Cohen, of 2081 Belmont Avenue. They hurried to the scene, carrying the girls into the ambulance. Miss Heimsoth died a few minutes later from internal injuries, a fractured skull and a broken arm. Miss Wilkins was unconscious from shock. A concussion of the brain and possible internal injuries.

Coroner Feinberg and Detective Thomson, of the Homicide Bureau, began an investigation, which resulted in Loveland, the chauffeur, being detained at the West 152d Street station on a technical charge of homicide, pending an inquest. Mr. Davis, Loveland's employer, is in Philadelphia on business.

Shortly before midnight Loveland was bailed by his uncle, William Conklin, president of the Franklin Savings Institution, Forty-second Street and Eighth Avenue.

8 HURT AS AUTOS CRASH

Three Injured May Die—Headlight Glare Caused Accident.

Spring Lake, N. J., Nov. 7.—Eight persons were injured on the Rock Road near here to-night, when two automobiles, each containing four persons, came together head on. Three of the injured may die.

All in one of the cars were young people. The machine was bound northward from Lakewood to Asbury Park. None was seriously hurt. All of those in the other car were badly injured. Two were operated on immediately upon reaching Spring Lake Hospital; but little hope is held for them. E. A. Tridham, who was driving the smaller car, said he was blinded by the glare of the headlight of the other machine.

ENDS LIFE AS WIFE IS VISITING BROTHER

E. Storer, of M. B. Brown Co.,
Despondent After Operation.

Glen Cove, Long Island, Nov. 7.—Taking advantage of his wife's absence, Eben Storer, forty-nine years of age, a member of the M. B. Brown Printing Company, of New York City, ended his life this evening in his home on Highland Road. He shot himself in the right temple. He was found dead in the bathroom.

His family say nervous depression, resulting from a recent operation for appendicitis, caused his act. He was operated on two months ago, and seemed morose because he was not recovering very rapidly.

Shortly before dinner time his wife visited her brother, Major Bennett Tobey, a carpet manufacturer of Brooklyn, whose home is about 100 feet from the Storer house. She was away from home about fifteen minutes.

Not finding her husband when she returned she called to him. Receiving no answer she searched the house and found him, fully dressed, on the bathroom floor. Mrs. Storer is seriously ill from shock.

NEWPORT! AH! QUIET SPOT

Rigid Blue Laws Will Keep One from
Losing Sleep or Money.

Newport, R. I., Nov. 7.—Any one wishing to pass an absolutely quiet Sunday will now find Newport an ideal spot for the week end.

"Every member of the police force is directed to do his duty in enforcing observance of the blue laws," reads an order issued to-day by Mayor Burlingame to the Newport police officials. "No person has any right or power to prevent the police officials from discharging the duties of their office, and any statement or inference that they are prevented will be but proof that they themselves are failing to perform, through incompetency or evasion, their duty."

Francis W. Hirst

Editor of the London "Economist"

When a boy gets big enough to get the better of his father in a tussle, it's interesting to hear what the father thinks.

Whatever happens after the war, the fact remains that for the present the world is paying its bills in dollars instead of pounds.

Mr. Hirst has the confidence of British bankers and reflects their opinions. He cables regularly to The Tribune what they think—and what he thinks. Turn this morning to Page 10.

VENIZELOS WILL ACCEPT CABINET TO AVERT CRISIS

London Believes Chamber
Will Approve New
Ministry.

PLEDGED TO GUARD GREEK NEUTRALITY

King It Is Reported, Will Not
Dare to Dissolve the
Parliament.

London, Nov. 8.—M. Skouloudis, the new Greek Premier, has declared his intention of observing an attitude of very benevolent neutrality toward the Entente powers.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, Nov. 7.—The new Greek Cabinet formed by M. Skouloudis was accepted to-day by King Constantine and sworn into office. With the exception of the Premier, who takes the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, all its members served in the Zaimis Cabinet, and the new ministry will carry on the former government's policy of maintaining neutrality. It will be presented to the chamber for approval to-morrow.

The new Cabinet is at the mercy of the Venizelos majority in the chamber, but the impression is that no attempt will be made to turn it out, thus avoiding dissolution of Parliament and a consequent election the result of which could not be predicted while the army remains mobilized.

As announced in Athens to-night, the Cabinet is composed of the following ministers:

Minister of Justice and Communications—D. G. Kallias.
Minister of Interior—M. Gounaris.
Minister of National Economy—M. Theotokis.
Minister of War—General Yanakakis.
Minister of Marine—Admiral Constantinos.
Minister of Finance—Stiphan Dracomic.
Minister of Public Instruction—M. Michalidis.

The only change beside that of Premier is the appointment of M. Theotokis as Minister of National Economy, a new department. The post he formerly held is taken by M. Michalidis.

Policy Is Problematic.

With the experiences of the last six months in mind, there is little likelihood here to attempt a forecast of the new government's policy, either with relation to the Allies at Salonica or to the Venizelos majority in the Chamber. Changes in Greece are too kaleidoscopic to offer any basis for prediction, especially when it is remembered that Venizelos, the nation's strongest man, has twice, through over-estimating the situation, lost direction of affairs. That so King will not risk a dissolution of Parliament seems assured.

Not only have the Entente powers, through the Russian Minister, frowned on any such procedure, but the act of fraud with too much peril to the Crown itself.

The plan now, according to advices from Athens, whether the new Cabinet is approved or not, is to prorogue the chamber within the next ten days, when its legally required sitting of three months will have expired.

Such a plan has advantages for both sides, and the chief one, particularly emphasized in the Venizelos camp, is the postponement of any internal crisis until foreign danger is a little further removed from Greek doors. Given a month or two, it is hoped that there will be a clearing of the uncertainty with which the whole situation at present is surrounded.

A Conflict of Hopes.

While the King and the pro-German element hope that before then Teutonic supremacy will be established in Serbia, and Greece thus freed of the necessity of maintaining an expensive mobilization, the Venizelos group is counting no less that the Balkans will be sufficiently unfolded to remove all doubt of their ultimate victory.

Thus again Allied policy, through its obscurity and its weakness with reference to Serbia, is losing an opportunity at Athens, as it lost an opportunity at Sofia two months ago.

Nothing would so strengthen the hand of Venizelos in combating the neutral policy of the King as the landing of 100,000 or 400,000 French and British at Salonica, but of a force with sufficient striking power to win the respect of Bulgar and Greek alike.

While M. Skouloudis has not taken an active part in the war or neutralist movements, it is generally believed that he is favorably inclined to the Entente powers. He is remembered here for his work at the Peace Conference following the first Balkan war. He was Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Rallis Cabinet in 1907.

Some surprise is expressed that General Yanakakis, who is credited with responsibility for the overthrow of the Zaimis Ministry, should remain in the new Cabinet. M. Venizelos, who controls a majority in the chamber, took exception to a statement by the War Minister, and when an apology was not forthcoming, brought about the vote which showed a lack of confidence in the government.

Danube Traffic Resumed.

Passenger service has also begun, rendering Bulgaria independent of the Rumanian railways. Several telegraph lines will be laid, further greatly improving traffic conditions for the central powers, Bulgaria and Turkey.

The opening of the Danube will greatly strengthen Turkey, as it will enable the exchange of foodstuffs and arms and ammunition. It is expected that thousands of carloads will be moving eastward and westward within a few days.

Wilson Warns England Illegal Seizures Must Stop; U. S. to Ignore Blockade

FRENCH REPULSE BULGAR ATTACK; SERBS IN PERIL

Teutons Capture 130 Guns
at Kralievo—May
Cut Retreat.

KING NICHOLAS WORSTED AUSTRIANS

Montenegrins Take Eight Guns
and Prisoners in Sanjak—
Nish Stores Saved.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, Nov. 7.—While the Germans have continued their pursuit of the Serbs in the valley of the Western Morava almost to Krusevac, the Bulgarians have opened a new offensive against the French in the south.

A division of 25,000 Bulgarians is trying to envelop the French forces in the Valandovo region, according to Greek outposts near the Belasica Mountain, near which the Greek, Bulgar and Serb borders join. Heavy artillery and rifle fire have been heard at the outpost station. Paris, however, reports the repulse of all the attacks.

Preparations for an Allied advance, it is believed here, almost have been completed, and the opening of a general attack is looked for with the arrival of Lord Kitchener. Besides solidifying the positions they now hold from Kralievo to Doiran, the Allies have brought up heavy reinforcements, and by arranging additional landing facilities at Salonica they are getting ready for still heavier contingents.

So far, however, no attempt has been made to relieve the Serbs desperately fighting at Babuna Pass. All Bulgar assaults have failed to dislodge them, and the pass is reported to be piled deep with Bulgarian dead. At one point more than 1,000 Bulgars were caught between crossfire and annihilated.

Serbs May Be Cut Off?

That the Germans have intercepted a part of the Serbian retreating columns in the Ibar Valley is the conclusion placed here on the capture of 130 guns, reported by Berlin to-night. No such number had previously fallen into the hands of the invaders, and the abandonment of any such large fraction of Serb artillery can only mean that the Serbs are in the direst difficulty.

How strongly the pursuit of the shattered Serbian forces is being pressed is indicated in Berlin's announcement that the German army is marching northwest of Grapina Heights, a distance of twenty-seven miles south of Kralievo, has been taken by the Teutons. This places them about nine miles within the Ibar Valley, accomplished in less than two days.

Another German force, also moved down the Western Morava from Kralievo and reached Krusevac, one of the most important manufacturing towns in Serbia and the largest of the lateral of the Orient railway. It is presumed that this city will also be evacuated by the Serbs, if it has not been already.

Serbs Succeed in Removing the Stores from Nish before Capture.

The Berlin "Tageblatt" correspondent at the Austrian field headquarters, the forts were held just long enough to permit the withdrawal of the baggage and ammunition trains, and the correspondent, when the magazine was blown up and the retreat of the main army begun.

Every opportunity for defence offered by the Serbs is being seized by the retreating armies, says the "Tageblatt" correspondent, and the Bulgarians, who have not the advantage of the Germans' heavy guns, are making practically no headway in pursuit, which showed the Serbs voluntarily lying ground.

The Montenegrins, like the Serbs, are offering stubborn resistance to the Austrians, and report the capture of guns and men in Herzegovina and the Balkans. So far the Austrians, despite their overwhelming superiority, have been unable to achieve more than temporary local successes.

The opening of the Danube to navigation, connecting the Central Powers with their Bulgar and Turk allies, was welcomed with great celebration in Bulgaria, according to delayed dispatches from Sofia, which were here to-night. With the arrival of the Danube steamers there is no longer fear of any shortage of munitions for carrying on the war.

The reopening of the Danube was considered so momentous an event that King Ferdinand and Premier Radoslawoff went to Lom-Palanka to witness the arrival of the first boats from Hungary.

LABOR AIDS ENLISTMENTS

Unions Join in Backing Recruiting Campaign in London.

London, Nov. 7.—A remarkable demonstration in furtherance of Lord Derby's recruiting campaign was held in Trafalgar Square to-day by the trade unions of London. As a result a large number of young men enlisted. With the exception of the Clapham branch of the Independent Labor party, which declined to participate, all the unions in London sent representatives, and an immense crowd gathered in the square.

Resolutions adopted at the meeting reaffirmed labor's conviction that the voluntary system of enlistment would meet the needs of the country and pledged devoted support to Lord Derby's campaign, "in order to bring the war to a successful issue and to prevent the establishment in this country of the conscriptionist military and naval system."

Continued on page 2, column 2

KITCHENER IN PARIS: TALKS WITH JOFFRE

Paris, Nov. 7.—Earl Kitchener, British Secretary for War, before leaving for the Near East, conferred with Premier Briand, Minister of War Gallieni and General Joffre, the French commander in chief.

This dispatch contains the first hint of the route taken by Lord Kitchener in proceeding to the Orient. It apparently bears out the report in London that his mission includes an effort to co-ordinate the work of the general staffs of the Allied armies.

SAZONOFF WILL STAY IN RUSSIAN MINISTRY

Foreign Secretary to Remain at
Post, Duma Is Told.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Petrograd, Nov. 7.—Sergei Sazonoff will retain his post as Foreign Minister.

The Duma Commission was authoritatively informed of that decision yesterday. It comes after a week of the wildest rumors, which went so far as to say that another Cabinet shake-up was contemplated.

Just a week ago these reports began to crop up. They were started by the rumor that Premier Goremykin would be appointed Chancellor of the Empire, with supreme control of foreign affairs.

To make possible such an organization of the ministry, M. Sazonoff would have to resign. One report had it that the Foreign Minister had already withdrawn and that the Czar had accepted his resignation.

To-day's announcement will set at rest all these rumors.

JAPANESE STEAMER SUNK BY SUBMARINE

The Yasakuni Victim of U-Boat
Near Gibraltar.

Tokio, Nov. 7.—The Japanese steamer Yasakuni Maru, 5,118 tons gross, was sunk by a German submarine near Gibraltar on Wednesday. The captain and crew reached shore safely.

The Yasakuni Maru evidently was the victim of one of the German submarines which have passed safely through the Strait of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean Sea to undertake a campaign against the merchant shipping of the Allies, and already have sunk several vessels.

The Yasakuni Maru sailed from New York on October 6 for Oran, Algeria, and arrived at Gibraltar on October 23.

SEES U. S. BANKRUPT IF GERMANS WIN WAR

Harvard Professor Says Allies
Cannot Then Pay Debts.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)

Boston, Nov. 7.—In reply to the query, "What would be the significance to the United States if Germany won an overwhelming victory?" Professor O. M. Sprague, of Harvard University, said: "A panic, swift and certain; probably the greatest in our history. A veritable financial chaos."

"The United States," Professor Sprague went on, "would be in exactly the same position as any manufacturer who suddenly found himself unable to collect his bills, unable to raise the funds to carry on his business, and with the resultant loss of credit and confidence in the business. His business machinery would stop, he himself would become bankrupt, his employees would be thrown out of work and his own creditors would suffer as a consequence."

"If Germany wins—and, of course, I have no such expectation—her first act would be to demand an enormous indemnity—enough to pay all the expenses of the war and much more in addition. And this the Allies would have to concede. There would be no alternative while Germany occupied their territories. The Allies would be forced to either repudiate or defer indefinitely payments of their debts to the United States."

"These merchants and manufacturers who have been doing business on credit with the Allies would be in a similar position. Financial depression all over the country would follow, business would halt and the working-man would be out of employment."

"To offset the panic would be the removal of business relations with Germany. Supplied with the gold of the indemnity, Germany would undoubtedly trade heavily with us, and in some measure afford relief."

Search Made Imperative.

On the first of his three points, Secretary Lansing points out that the practice of nations, as shown in their instructions to naval commanders from 1881 to the beginning of the present war, makes it imperative that belligerents search suspected neutral vessels at sea, and not in port, and that the vessel seized should not even be deducted from her course unnecessarily.

Law, Not Expediency, To Rule the Seas, Note Insists.

SEARCH IN PORT CALLED ILLEGAL

Protest Charges Vessels
Are Held Pending
Quest for Guilt.

COURT RELIEF DENIED

Neutrals Harassed by Orders in
Council Which Bind Prize
Tribunals.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)
Washington, Nov. 7.—American diplomacy, fresh from what the administration believes is a complete victory over Germany, has been directed against Great Britain. The long-awaited note of protest against British interference with American trade was delivered at the Foreign Office by Ambassador Page on Friday and was made public at the State Department to-day.

International law is the sole basis of Secretary Lansing's argument. Without flowers of rhetoric, except for a paragraph or two near the end—which are understood to have been modelled at the White House—the long document attacks Great Britain's position on purely legal grounds, but with a clarity of diction that makes the note appeal to the layman, as well as to the lawyer.

The three chief points of Secretary Lansing's argument are:

First—The seizure of neutral vessels on the high seas without immediate evidence of improper character or destination of cargo is contrary to international law. It is alleged that the British practice has been to seize the vessels and take them into port first and to seek grounds of seizure afterward.

Second—The British "blockade" is illegal, in that it is neither effective nor impartial, and because it closes neutral ports.

Third—The United States is not bound to withhold diplomatic protests until the prize and superior courts have passed on cases of seizure. Prize courts have no jurisdiction over vessels illegally seized.

Cotton Protest Held Back.

A protest against the British order placing cotton on the absolute contraband list, which was expected to be contained in this note, is reserved for a later date.

By quotations from its own writers on international law and by citations of its own practice in previous wars, Secretary Lansing repeatedly points out inconsistencies of the British government.

What this government will do in case of a rejection of its contentions by Great Britain is not indicated. It is made plain, however, that the United States expects the British government immediately to concede the injustice of its past actions and to refrain from such practices in future.

"Relying upon the regard of the British government," says the note, "for the principles of justice so frequently and uniformly manifested prior to the present war, this government anticipates that the British government will instruct its officers to refrain from these vexatious and illegal practices."

Among officials of the administration, however, there is no serious belief that Great Britain is ready to yield to any argument against its interest as a belligerent. Many officials frankly predict that the British reply will be an attempt at refutation of the American contentions.

This, it is admitted, would force the United States to arbitration as the only escape. The present note is beyond question the strongest possible presentation of the position of the United States, and its failure to convince Great Britain will be an unmistakable sign that diplomacy is helpless to cope with the situation.